

Tynewater Primary School

a thinking, caring, learning community

32 Crichton Road
PATHHEAD
Midlothian EH37 5RA

Head Teacher
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Our School Aims

We believe that each of us can confidently:

- Be ambitious, imaginative and creative
- Make healthy choices to take care of ourselves, others, and our environment
- Seek new challenges to learn together to achieve our goals
- Explore, be involved in, and build up our community

Modelling attitudes and behaviour; thinking before we do or say something:

Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it inspiring? (build up?) Is it needed? Is it kind?" **t-h-i-n-k**

Monday 10 August 2020

Dear Parents / Carers, children and young people,

Tynewater PS Reopening for ALL P1 to P7 Pupils: Wednesday 12 August

We are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school. However, to do so we need to follow certain procedures each day.

Please read and follow the instructions in this letter and on the attached plan of the school, showing patience and consideration for everyone: all children, other parents and school staff.

Attendance can only be for those children who are well. Please **do not** send your child to school / come to school if he / she / you show any symptoms relating to COVID-19.

We are operating within the Scottish Government instructions of two metres physical distancing between:

- Adults from different families
- School staff and parents / carers
- School staff and children (Unless a member of staff needs to be alongside a child for more than 15 minutes, when staff will wear a face visor and transparent face mask, as appropriate.)

Between each other and their own parents / carers, children do not need to keep to a physical distance.

To minimize the number of parent / carers in the School Area and playground, there should be only one parent / carer per family.

Midlothian Council has provided all school staff with face visors as enhanced protection. Some staff may wear face masks to support any children and young people who are working in close proximity to pupils or choose to do so for personal reasons.

School Times:

From Wednesday 12 August for **ALL P1 to P7 pupils:**

- The starting time for entry into the school building / classrooms is 08.45, Monday to Friday inclusive;
- The finishing time when children will be supervised leaving the school building / classrooms is 15.30 Monday to Thursday inclusive, and 12.25 on Fridays.

Please note that given our numbers, ALL 28 of our P1 pupils will be full-time from Wednesday 12 August.

On entering their classrooms each child will use sanitizer hand wash, the first of many times during the school day. Pupils will also regularly wash their hands with soap and water.

Arriving and Leaving School:

To minimize the number of parent / carers in the School Area which includes the playground, there should be only one parent / carer per family.

Keeping to appropriate social distancing, could everyone please enter and leave the School Area by the pedestrian side gate from the footpaths from / to Crichton Road - Crichton Avenue - Callander Park.

1. **Our School Car Park will be closed from 08.00 to 16.00** with the following exceptions:
 - access for staff (who arrive around 08.00)
 - access for disabled blue badge holders
 - children brought to school by minibus (arriving for 08.30; departing between 15.30 to 15.40)

The car park gates will be closed and supervised by staff. Please do not attempt to drive into the car park. Please keep the entrance area clear to allow access for Emergency Services.

Further information has been issued for pupils being transported to and from school by minibus.

2. Access to and from the school area on foot for 08.45 and 15.30 (12.25 Fridays)

- Please see attached Plan of School Area
- Please **walk** to/from school whenever possible.
- If driving to/from school is necessary, please park well away from the school building safely and considerately with respect to residents of the streets leading to the school and those walking to school.
- Note that housing construction work has started next to the school. There is no parking at the school end of Crichton Avenue.
- Please bring children to school for entry to the building at 08.45. Playground gates will open no earlier than 08.30.

3. Children entering the school building (Please read the attached instructions on the Plan of the School):

- Children should line up at the designated points marked on the attached plan ready to enter the school at 08.45 supervised by their Teacher and Learning Assistants.
- It would be helpful if older children could enter the playground by their 'Class Gate' independent of their parent.

School Uniform

There will be a relaxed approach to dress code to allow for regular washing of clothes. This will be revised and updated for pupils returning to school after the September break. You may send your child to school in their school uniform if you wish to do so.

Please ensure that every item of clothing and footwear is labelled with your child's name in permanent ink.

Our Parent Council will be making arrangements so that outgrown school uniform items which are in good condition, washed clean with a pinned note of the size, can be offered to other families.

Lunch Arrangements

All children need to bring a packed lunch to school with them until Friday 18 September, following which there will be further guidance issued. BACs payments will continue until this time for those entitled to free school meals. Pupils will eat their lunch in their classroom to avoid mass gatherings of children in line with national guidance. Pupils will be supervised at lunchtime.

At present, the school has no facilities for making packed lunches.

If you have not done so already, could you please inform the School Office by email of any allergies which your child has to food items or anything else.

Nut allergies Some of our pupils have severe allergies to some or all forms of nuts. There are inevitably traces of nut in most manufactured foods, however, could we please avoid giving pupils actual nuts as part of their morning snack or packed lunch? Your help is very much appreciated.

Separate information about milk will be issued in due course.

What to bring and not bring to school

Pupils should bring:

- a named packed lunch (see above) including a named, filled water bottle (no fizzy juice please)
- a healthy snack for mid-morning break (optional)
- a change of shoes for indoors. Our School Community voted to adopt a policy of pupils wearing suitable indoor footwear whilst in school to ensure that pupils can sit (which they will do regularly) in any part of our school knowing that the floor surface is clean. Indoor footwear can be black plimsolls which can also be used for PE (gym) or trainers
- a jacket. There will be learning outdoors as much as possible
- a personal reading book which should remain in school until completed
- if possible, a school bag (one bag to carry a named packed lunch, named water bottle and snack)

Pupils should NOT bring:

- a pencil case. The school provides each child with pencils, colouring pencils, pens, erasers and rulers which will be used **only** by individual children. Equipment will **not be shared** between children.
- a PE / gym kit (until further notice). **Pupils will still receive PE / gym from 12 August.**
- toys / show and tell items of any kind.
- jewellery of any kind, including rings, earrings, necklaces and neck chains. These can be extremely dangerous, especially when playing in the playground and at PE (gym).

Parents / Carers visiting the School

It would be most helpful to staff if you would first email our School Office with any requests / needs so that they can try to help you without your coming to the School Office. Please **only** come to our School Office if it is absolutely necessary. Only one parent will be admitted at any one time. Please wear a face mask.

We would be most grateful if you could discuss with your child the importance of following the arrangements and protocols put in place at our school to ensure their safety and that of

others. Our safety measures and expectations with regard to behaviour must be followed, and as with every school we will be in contact with the parents / carers of any child who is behaving in an unsafe way and placing themselves and others at risk.

Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through current circumstances. This is still a very challenging time for everyone.

We look forward to welcoming you and your child(-ren) on Wednesday 12 August.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas Lawson

Douglas Lawson
Head Teacher
On behalf of the entire Tynewater Staff Team

/ Arriving and Leaving School:

Arriving and Leaving School:

To minimize the number of parent / carers in the School Area which includes the playground, there should be only one parent / carer per family.

All parents need to keep 2 metres apart throughout the School Area.

All pedestrians need to enter and leave the School Area by the pedestrian side gate from the footpaths from / to Crichton Road - Crichton Avenue - Callander Park.

The school car park will be closed to all traffic from 08.00 to 16.00 except for:

- staff
- disabled blue badge holders
- minibuses transporting children (arriving for 08.30; departing between 15.30 to 15.40)

Please keep the entrance area clear to allow access for Emergency Services.

Minibuses will park at Gate 1 and children should make their way to their own entrance point.

Class	Teacher	Entrance	Exit
Nursery	Ms Davie	Gate 4	Gate 4
P1 (including Beatrice, Cerys, Pipa and Zakir)	Miss Seaton	Gate 4 then Gate 6, then door at end of corridor	Classroom door, Gate 6 then Gate 4
P2B (including Grace, Sarah, Emily H and Zosia)	Miss Thorburn	Gate 4 then Gate 5 into the building	As for entrance
P2A	Ms Cruikshank	Gate 1 then in through classroom door	As for entrance
P3	Ms Hall	Gate 1 then door at end of corridor	Exit through classroom door, then Gate 1
P4	Ms Blyth	Gate 1 then in through classroom door	As for entrance
P5	Mrs Clarke / Mrs Leonard	Gate 1 then in through door at end of Atrium corridor	As for entrance
P6	Mr Watson	Gate 2 then in through classroom door	As for entrance
P7	Ms Maley	Gate 1 then in through classroom door	As for entrance